

HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD

Thursday, May 15, 2008, @ 3:50 PM

Peck-Chaffers House/Century 21 Advantage, 506 Main Street, Lewiston

FINAL MINUTES

- I. Roll Call:** This Special Meeting was called to order at 3:50 p.m. and was chaired by Bill Clifford.
Members Present: William (Bill) Clifford, Philip Meldrum, Douglas Hodgkin, Eric Hirshler, Maurice Gilbert, and Jack Milo.
Associate Member Present: David Desjardins.
Members Absent: Rick Morris and Mark Lee.
Guest Present: Bob Libby – Bob’s Handyman Service.
Staff Present: Gildace Arsenault, Director of Planning & Code Enforcement and Cathy Lekberg, Administrative Assistant, Economic & Community Development

Bill Clifford, Chairman, appointed David Desjardins, as a full member, for this meeting in lieu of Rick Morris being absent.

- II. New Business: Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of the facade at the Lewiston-Auburn Islamic Center at 21-23 Lisbon Street** – Bob Libby of Bob’s Handyman Service explained that he and his colleagues have been working on this building for 3-½ months to bring it up to code. He stated that renovations are being conducted in order to resolve second means of egress issues associated with the two upper floors and to renovate the first floor for religious services for the Muslim community. Gil stated that Bob did not realize that he needed a Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed façade work, and his goal was to have this work completed within three (3) weeks, which is why the board was asked to conduct this Special Meeting.

Bob stated that he is in the process of renovating the first floor and the owner (Lewiston-Auburn Islamic Center, Inc.) needs to move the first floor recessed store front closer to the front wall of the building to create more usable space for their religious services. He also stated that the current façade is in very bad shape. Bill asked what is behind the green, metal façade? Bob responded that the original granite is behind the metal façade. Bill said he liked the idea of getting back to the original granite. Bob commented that the store next door (After Hours Boutique) has not finished cleaning the granite. Gil added that they were still working on their exterior improvements. Bill stated that he would like to see the current façade removed and the old granite showing and install a panel to cover the exposed I-beam. Bill commented that it should look like a commercial storefront. Doug stated that the primary concern is the exterior, not the interior. Phil said that he liked the arched window in the sketch, but did not think there was enough room for both windows. Bob said he was not sure if they would both fit and would put in what would fit properly. Gil stated that he did not think that type of window would be appropriate. Bill mentioned the 1953 photograph that shows the windows that were in place at that time. He stated it should look like a commercial establishment. Bob said that he could take the old window out of its frame and reset it in a different frame to look similar. Bob stated that the window will not be as large as the storefront beside at 25 Lisbon Street. He also stated that the door would be recessed so that it would not open onto the sidewalk. Jack stated that there is not enough information on the renovation, and suggested giving proxy to Gil to work with Bob for the best possible outcome. Gil stated because he was not a board member and that he was uncomfortable with acting on behalf of the board in this instance. He stated that perhaps there should be a subcommittee to work with Bob. The board agreed and the following motion was made.

MOTION: by **Philip Meldrum** to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to Bob Libby of Bob's Handyman Service to move the recessed storefront closer to Lisbon Street and to reset the existing commercial entrance door at the Lewiston-Auburn Islamic Center located at 21-23 Lisbon Street in keeping with the most recent renderings submitted by Bob Libby. The new façade will consist of a single picture window, the aluminum false front on the building will be removed, and the dental work will be repaired, as necessary, and painted. A subcommittee including Bill Clifford, Phil Meldrum and Doug Hodgkin will work with Bob Libby, as necessary, to review any design details that may arise. Second by **Jack Milo**.

VOTED: 7-0 (Passed).

III. Adjournment. This meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m. No motion was made. The next regularly scheduled meeting is for Thursday, June 5, 2008, at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Lekberg
Administrative Assistant
Economic & Community Development